Elder Willis Burnes.
Mercantes 1843

Vol 1

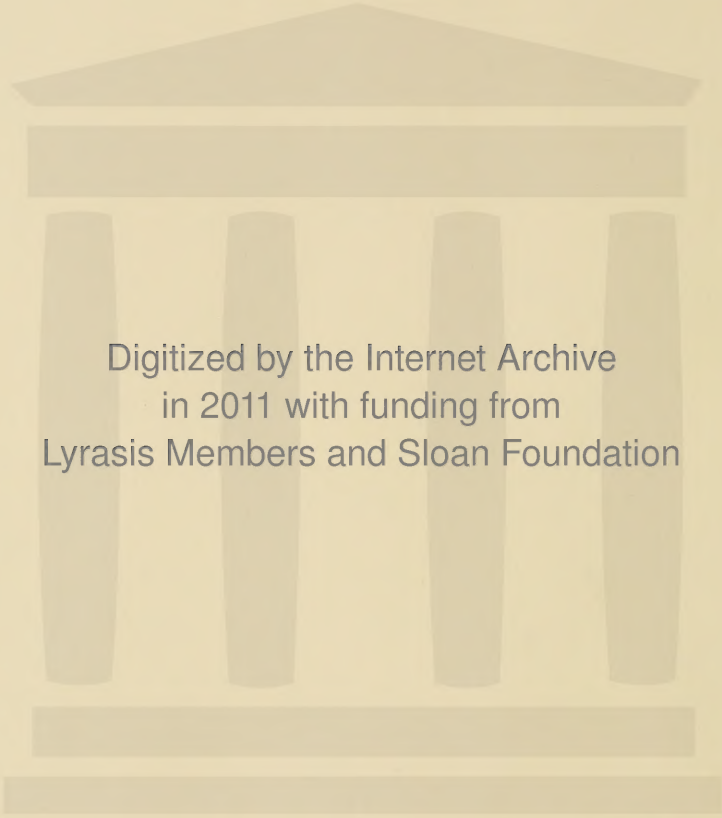
Official File

Birmingham Baptist Association.

Secured by M M Woodward and J D Ray.

1833 to 1873.

Elgtons - inc constitution
in 1833 & dissolved in
1846.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2011 with funding from
Lyrasis Members and Sloan Foundation

https://archive.org/details/minutesoftenthan00cana

Minutes of the Tenth annual session of

MINUTES

OF THE TENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

CANAAN ASSOCIATION

OF UNITED BAPTISTS,

HELD AT LIBERTY CHURCH,

JEFFERSON COUNTY,

Commencing on Saturday, October 5th,

1844.

TUSKALOOSA:

PRINTED BY M. D. J. SLADE.

1844.

MINUTES.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1844.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by elder J. TATE, from Romans, xii, 5. "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

Letters from the different Churches being called for, were read, and their delegates' names enrolled. After which, the Association proceeded to business.

1. Elected elder J. BYERS, Moderator; A. J. WALDROP, Recording, and J. MOORE, Corresponding Secretary.

2. Read the rules of decorum.

3. Invited Ministers of our order to take seats in the Association.

4. Letters of correspondence being called for, the following were received, viz: Letter and Minutes from Union Association; Letter and Minutes from Tuscaloosa Association; Letter and Minutes from Coosa River Association, by elder T. Cally; Letter and Minutes from Mulberry Association, by elder T. P. Holcombe.

5. E. WOOD, continued Treasurer.

6. Appointed Corresponding Messengers to the following Associations, viz:

To the Coosa River—brethren, H. COX, A. MCDONALD and JOSEPH MOORE—brother J. TRUSS, to write.

To the Union—brethren, J. BYARS and M. MCMATH—br. J. MOORE, to write.

To the Liberty—J. THOMASON—E. G. COOK, to write.

To the Mulberry—R. WOOD and E. KING—br. KING, to write.

To Tuscaloosa, A. J. WALDROP and N. Skelton—br. J. J. BYARS, to write.

7. Appointed H. Cox, E. King, J. Moore, together with the Moderator and Clerk, a committee to arrange the business of the Association.

8. Appointed J. Timmons and J. Truss, a committee of finance.

9. Appointed O. Franklin and Z. Hagood, a committee on documents.

10. Appointed M. McMath, E. Wood and A. G. Waldrop, a committee to examine the Associational Book, prepared and presented by br. E. King, and report on Monday.

11. Appointed elders T. P. Holcombe, T. Cally and H. Cox, to occupy the stand on the Sabbath, to preach in the order of their names, in connection with elder J. Byars, appointed last year.

12. Appointed J. Byars, E. King and E. Wood, messengers to the Baptist State Convention—King, to write.

13. Adjourned until 8 o'clock, Monday.

14. The brethren appointed to occupy the stand on the Sabbath, preached to a very attentive congregation with great zeal, and the word preached

seemed to have effect in the hearts of those that heard; a number presented themselves as mourners, and some professed a hope of pardon.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1844.

15. The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Moderator.

16. The arranging committee made their report, and were discharged.

17. The circular letter prepared by elder A. J. Waldrop, was read and adopted.

18. Appointed elder A. J. Waldrop to preach the next Missionary Sermon,—elder H. Cox alternate. Elder H. Cox to preach the Introductory Sermon to the next Association—A. J. Waldrop alternate.

19. The committee on documents reported and were discharged.

20. Appointed J. Moore to write the next Circular, from a subject of his own choice.

21. *Ordered*, That the Clerk superintend the printing of the Minutes, that 500 copies be printed, that he reserve 100 for corresponding Associations, and that he be allowed $10 for his services.

22. Appointing distributing agents as follows: For the 1st Disttict, A. McDonald—2d, E. Wood—3d, A. J. Waldrop.

23. The committee that was appointed to examine the Associational Book, reported it correctly done—said committee discharged—the Book was then received and deposited with the Clerk, and it is hereby made his duty to present the same to the Association at each session of its body.

24. Read and adopted the Letters of Correspondence.

25. The committee of finance made their report, and were discharged.

26. The next Association will be held with the Salem Church, Jefferson county, Ala., commencing Saturday before the 1st Lords-day in October next.

27. Agreeably to our former resolutions, the collection taken on the Sabbath, $14 81 for Foreign Mission, $1 for India Mission, and $12 62 1-2 sent up by the Churches, all of which is left in the hands of E. Wood, the Treasurer, to be forwarded to the next Baptist State Convention.

28. Called for the report of Union meetings: The 1st will be held with the Union Church, Shelby county, commencing Friday before the 4th Sabbath in July, 1845, and the following delegates are required to attend the other Districts next year—brethren A. McDonald and J. Moore, to the 2d, and brothers Peters and Wood to the 3d. 2d. District will be held with the Salem Church, Jefferson county, commencing Friday before the 2d Sabbath in July, 1845. 3d District, will be held with the Mud Creek Church, Jefferson county, commencing Friday before the 2d Sabbath in July, 1845, and the following brethren are requested to attend the districts next year, brethren Nelson Skelton and A. J. Waldrop to the 2d, and brothers A. Lee and O. Franklin, to the 1st.

29. *Resolved*, That the funds sent up for correspondence, now in the hands of the Treasurer, be paid over to our corresponding ministers in proportion to the services rendered.

30. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer pay over the money in his hands to the Clerk, for the purpose of paying for the printing of Minutes, and his services.

JOSEPH BYARS, *Moderator*.

A. J. WALDROP, Clerk.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Churches.	Counties.	Ordained Ministers in SMALL CAPITALS. Names of Licentiates in *Italics*. Wm J. Peters is a Licentiate in this Association, but not a Delegate this year. DELEGATES.	Baptised	Rec. by Let.	Restored	Dismissed by L.	Excluded	Dead	Total in Fellp.	for Minutes	Contribution	for correspond'e	Contribution
Union,	Shelby,	No representation.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shoal Creek,	do	E. King.	...	1	...	1	1	1	40	1	00	1	50
Bethel,	do	L. M. Wood	2	1	...	1	...	...	44	2	50	...	...
Hebron,	Jefferson,	A. McDONALD, J. Moore.	14	2	...	6	...	1	59	2	50	2	00
Mt. Zion,	St. Clair,	J. Thomason, W. Clayton, J. B. Turner	...	2	1	6	4	...	103	4	20	...	...
Cahaba,	Jefferson,	J BYARS, *T Franklin*, E G Cook, J Truss	9	...	1	5	...	4	104	3	00	3	00
Ruhamah,	do	E. Wood, W. Cummins, J. J. Byars,	20	...	1	4	...	...	60	2	50	2	50
Elyton,	do	J. Timmons, J. Massey	..	...	...	1	...	1	19	1	50	2	50
Canaan,	do	No representation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rock Creek,	do	*O. Franklin*, Z. Waldrop, A G Waldrop	1	2	...	3	...	...	58	2	00	...	...
Union,	do	R. Hughes, sen. Z. Ware	..	..	...	3	...	...	16	1	00	...	...
Liberty,	do	A. LEE, A. J. WALDROP, *N. Skelton*	1	3	...	2	2	1	38	1	00	...	...
Mud Creek	do	I. ELLEDGE, W D T culbertson, C HOWTON	...	2	...	...	...	...	22	1	00	...	...
Salem,	do	J. TATE, Z. Hagood, Isaac Allred	15	2	1	9	1	1	39	3	15	...	...
Rupe's Val.	Tuskal'a,	M. McMoth, J. A. Burgin.	..	2	...	10	1	1	92	3	00	...	...
Bethel,	St. Clair,	H. Cox, J. P. Hefring	6	3	...	4	...	...	45	2	00	2	55
			68	20	4	55	9	10	739	30	35	$14	

☞ Contributions for Missionary Purposes.—Hebron church gave $1—Cahaba $4 62 1-2—Ruhamah $3—and Elyton $2 50. Total, $11 12 1-2.

Churches.	Counties.	PASTORS.	DEACONS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE	Sabbath Meetings.
Union,	Shelby,	...	...	...	...	...
Shoal creek,	do	J. Sansing,	E. King,	E. King,	Montevallo.	3
Bethel,	do	H. Cox,	J. Wilder, J. Gilbert,	L. M. Wood,	Woodsborough.	1
Hebron,	Jefferson,	H. Cox,	J McLaulin, H B Moore	H. B. Moore,	Cedar Grove.	2
Mt. Zion,	St. Clair,	J. Byars,	R. Blythe, W. Clayton	R. Blythe,	Springville.	4
Cahaba,	Jefferson,	J. Byars,	E. G. Cook, J. Carlisle	J. Truss,	Truss'.	1
Ruhamah,	do	J. Byars,	O. W. Wood. H Turner	E. Wood,	Rockville.	3
Elyton,	do	J. Byars,	J. Timmons, W. Pullin,	J. Timmous,	Elyton.	2
Canaan,	do	...	...	...	...	..
Rock Creek	do	A. Lee,	A. G. Waldrop,	A. G. Waldrop	Jonesborough.	3
Union,	do	A. J. Waldrop	...	R. Rockett,	Jonesborough.	1
Liberty,	do	A. Lee,	J. Carrington,	A. J. Waldrop,	Jonesborough.	2
Mud creek	do	J. Elledge,	R. Johnson,	R. Johnson,	Jonesborough.	2
Salem,	do	J. Tate,	C. Deavors,	C. Deavours,	Mt. Pinson.	2
Rupe's Val.	Tuskal'a,	W. Hood,	M. Moses, M. McMath	J. A. Burgin,	McMath's.	...
Bethel,	St. Clair,	H. Cox,	John Chenault,	J. Chenault,	Branchville.	3

CIRCULAR.

The Canaan Baptist Association, to the Churches she represents, sendeth, Greeting.

Beloved Brethren:

We address you, this year, on the subject of "Searching the Scriptures," and our Saviour said to the Jews, "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me."—John v, 39. Scripture is a word derived from the Latin (Scriptura,) and in its original sense, is of the same import with writing, signifying any thing written; it is however, commonly used to denote the writings of the Old and New Testaments, which are called the Scriptures.

The Scriptures have not only the external sanction of miracles, but the eternal stamp of the omniscient God, by a variety of prophecies; some, and a number of which, have already been fulfilled, in the most exact manner:—That the Scriptures were written by Divine Inspiration, is beyond all doubt; as many parts of them could not have been written on any other principles, such as the creation of the world, the prophecies, &c. "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."—2d Epistle of Peter, i, 21; and Paul to Timothy, 2d Epistle, iii, 16.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, &c. We, therefore, argue a plenary, superintendant inspiration for the Scriptures, which excludes any mixture of error, at all from the performance so superintended: and not only the subject matter of the Scriptures appears to be inspired, but also the words, "which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth."—1st Cor. ii, 13. We admit that any translation of the Scriptures, by uninspired men, is liable to some mixture of error, and we are aware of a sentiment prevailing, with some of our denomination, that the original word for Baptism, which means Immersion, is not translated, but only transferred, with some other portions of Scripture which might be rendered plainer: and that a correction of such passages is necessary; but every thing considered, we think that such a correction would be attended with serious difficulties. In other religious denominations it would excite stronger prejudices, and with the young and inexperienced, might shake the validity of the Scriptures, and lead to principles of infidelity; therefore, we advise against such a course, and remark that Biblical critics, and those best acquainted with the original, acknowledge that it is an excellent translation of the Scriptures into the English Language, and nothing to prevent the sincere inquirer from obtaining the knowledge of the truth, relative to Faith and practice; and is the Book that God has sanctified and blessed to the conversion of thousands of the human family. We, therefore, say in the words of Christ, "Search the Scriptures:" they testify of him in a typical manner; the Paschal Lamb was a type of Christ. Paul tells the Church that, "Christ our Passover, is sacrificed for us." All those ceremonial observances and bloody sacrifices, pointed to the blood of Jesus Christ, that cleanseth us from all sin.

The Scriptures testify of Christ in a doctrinal manner: that "he died for our sins and rose again for our justification," and that "God has so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." The Scriptures testify of Christ, in an applicatory manner; and "you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins."—2d Eph. 1, 3 6. "And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places*, in Christ Jesus:" and in Heb. ix. 14, "how much more shall the Blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

Ministers of the Gospel ought to read the Scriptures abundantly, and like the Psalmist, meditate on them day and night. In consequence of not reading the Scriptures with attention, how frequently we hear wrong quotations of Scripture, from the pulpit, and sometimes the truth perverted. How often has Titus, ii, 12, been quoted thus: "*Teaching* THEM, *that denying ungodliness, and worldly lusts, they should live soberly*," &c., instead of "*Teaching* US, *that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly*," &c.—And John's Gospel, i, 9, instead of saying, "LIGHTETH *every man that cometh into the world;*" we hear it repeated, "ENLIGHTENETH *every man*," &c., and many other such quotations.

It is said by the prophet, "the Priest's lips should keep knowledge."—When there are wrong quotations from the pulpit, it has a very bad effect. The preacher is supposed to be correct, and many are unable to read, and others neglect it, and ignorance of the Scriptures prevails to a lamentable degree. Christians ought to be like the noble Berians, "who searched the Scriptures daily," to see if what they hear from the pulpit be so, that if their preacher, to his shame, should quote the Scriptures wrong, they might be able to detect the error. Heads of families ought to read the Scriptures in their families, that their children and servants might have an opportunity of learning the sacred truths contained in the Bible; which, by the blessing of God, is able to make them wise unto salvation.

Finally, brethren, "Search the Scriptures" constantly and prayerfully, and make the sacred word as the man of your counsel, as a light to your feet, and a lamp to your path; and may the Lord stablish, strengthen, settle, and perfect you in every good word and work, for his name's sake. Amen.

A. J. W.